

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

INFO AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 204311

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JM, CJ

SUBJECT: REVERE'S PROBLEMS WITH GOJ

1. ALBERT MOLOWA, VICE PRESIDENT, REVERE, PHONED DEPTOFF AUGUST 17 TO REPORT THAT GOJ OFFICIALS ARE SPREADING STORY ABOUT IMPROPER REVERE ACTIONS WHEN REVERE BEGAN OPERATIONS IN JAMAICA. ACCORDING MOLOWA, GOJ OFFICIALS, IN PARTICULAR MANLEY'S PRESS SECRETARY, HAVE TOLD REPORTERS THAT REVERE PAID 6.2 MILLION DOLS IN 1967 FOR PROSPECTING LICENSES WHICH WERE NOT REALLY REQUIRED. THESE FUNDS WERE ALLEGEDLY FUNNELLED TO JAMAICAN OFFICIALS THROUGH SWISS AND CAYMAN ISLAND BANKS.

2. MOLOWA LEARNED OF THIS DEVELOPMENT FROM WASHINGTON POST REPORTER, BOB WOODWARD, WHO ALSO SAID HE PLANS TO VISIT JAMAICA TO LOOK INTO THESE ALLEGATIONS.

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3. MOLOWA SAYS THAT PROSPECTING LICENSES WERE IN FACT

EXCLUSIVE UNDER JAMAICAN LAW. THOSE INDIVIDUALS HOLDING THE PROSPECTING LICENSES HAD DONE CONSIDERABLE DRILLING AND OTHER FIELD EVALUATIONS BEFORE THEY SOLD THEIR LICENSES TO REVERE. REVERE HAS CANCELLED CHECKS FROM THE INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED, SHOWING THAT THE FUNDS WERE DEPOSITED IN U.S., NOT SWISS BANKS.

4. MOLOWA SPECULATED THAT GOJ MOTIVES MAY INCLUDE:
(A) UPCOMING ELECTION--ALLEGED PAYOFFS WOULD HAVE GONE TO NOW OPPOSITION PARTY LEADERS; (B) GOJ MAY THINK ALLEGATIONS OF IMPROPER REVERE ACTIONS USEFUL IN CURRENT LAW SUIT WHICH REVERE HAS AGAINST GOVERNMENT; (C) GOJ MAY FEEL ALLEGED IMPROPER REVERE ACTIONS COULD SERVE AS EXCUSE FOR EXPROPRIATION OR OTHER ACTIONS AGAINST REVERE; (D) GOJ MAY THINK THESE ALLEGATIONS WILL DAMAGE REVERE'S CASE IN ITS OPIC CLAIM.

5. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION OR COMMENTS POST MAY HAVE ON ABOVE. KISSINGER

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